

PLUSIOTIS BOUCARDI, Sallé. (Plate XVI. fig. 3.)

Oblongo-parallela, valde convexa; capite thoraceque viridi-aureis, subtiliter punctatis, margine cupreo; elytris splendide viridi-aureis, fortiter punctatis; infra cupreo-rufa, tibiis tarsisque nigris, antennis fuscis.

Length 1 inch 2 lines.

Head, thorax, pygidium, and elytra of a magnificent metallic golden green, with red reflections, surrounded by a narrow coppery-red margin. The elytra are rugose and strongly punctured; the underside is of a coppery red; femora, tibiæ, and tarsi quite black in the anterior legs; in the middle and posterior pairs the femora are coppery red and the tibiæ and tarsi are black; antennæ nearly black.

Hab. Costa Rica.

I have only one specimen of this magnificent species, found in the mountains of Candelaria, in the forest of robles (oak trees) at the altitude of 5000 feet.

Its place is near *P. victorina*.

Type, museum Boucard.

I have seen all the species of this genus described in this and my previous paper, and am satisfied that they are good and distinct. I have examples of all of them in my collection, except *P. psittacina* and *P. gloriosa*.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XVI.

- Fig. 1. *Plusiotis rodriguezii*, p. 295.
 2. *P. badeni*, p. 294.
 3. *P. boucardi*, p. 296.
 4. *P. mnizechii*, P. Z. S. 1875, p. 124.
 5. *P. prasina*, p. 295.

2. On a small Collection of Lepidoptera obtained by the Rev. J. S. Whitmee at the Ellice Islands. By ARTHUR G. BUTLER, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

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The little series of Lepidoptera obtained from the Ellice Islands by Mr. Whitmee, although it contains only five species of Butterflies and two of Moths, makes a valuable addition to our knowledge of the geographical distribution of the forms inhabiting the Australian region, since we have hitherto been quite ignorant of the insect-fauna of these islands.

Of the seven species, all of which are described, one is of special interest to me; I refer to *Euplœa distincta*, a form figured by Herrich-Schäffer, from an example taken in the Viti Islands, as a variety of *E. eleutho*. To this insect I gave a name in my "List of the Diurnal Lepidoptera of the South-Sea Islands" (P. Z. S. 1874, pp. 274-291), and was severely censured for so doing by Herr

Schmeltz, in a paper criticising my determinations of South-Pacific Butterflies. Herr Schmeltz considered *E. distincta* to be an individual variety, and regarded it as an injury to science to give it a name; it is therefore satisfactory to find that *E. distincta* is the common *Euplœa* of the Ellice Islands, and consequently may be regarded as a fixed local form, of equal importance with *E. helcita*, *E. angasii*, and others of the *E.-eleutho* group.

RHOPALOCERA.

NYMPHALIDÆ.

EUPLŒA, Fabricius.

1. EUPLŒA ELEUTHO.

Danaïs eleutho, Quoy & Gaimard, in Freycinet's Voy. pl. 83. fig. 2 (1815).

The fact that this species is so rare that Mr. Whitmee only brought home a single example seems to show that its time of appearance is not synchronous with that of *E. distincta*. It represents the opposite extreme of modification in the group to which it belongs, and therefore is not likely to be a variety, since forms more nearly approaching *E. distincta* in character are known to be locally constant.

2. EUPLŒA DISTINCTA.

Euplœa distincta, Butler, P. Z. S. 1874, p. 278.

A good series, in both sexes, was obtained by Mr. Whitmee.

JUNONIA, Hübner.

3. JUNONIA VILLIDA.

Papilio villida, Fabricius, Mant. Ins. p. 35. no. 366 (1787).

Resembles Australian examples, being less suffused with orange tawny than Samoan specimens.

DIADEMA, Boisduval.

4. DIADEMA NERINA.

Papilio nerina, Fabricius, Syst. Ent. p. 509. no. 277 (1775).

The whole of the specimens are rather small, resembling those of Cape York.

5. DIADEMA OTAHEITÆ.

Diadema auge, Cramer, var. *otaheitæ*, Felder, Verh. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien, xii. p. 492. no. 185 (1862).

This may possibly be a dwarfed race of the preceding species; it is the common form of Samoa, where the specimens run even smaller than in the Ellice Islands.

HETEROCERA.

LITHOSIIDÆ.

DEIOPEIA, Stephens.

6. DEIOPEIA PULCHELLA.

Tinea pulchella, Linnæus, Syst. Nat. 1, ii. p. 884 (1766).

Larger than Australian specimens, and with the red dashes on the primaries broader and longer.

OPHIUSIDÆ.

ACHÆA, Hübner.

7. ACHÆA MELICERTE.

Phalæna-Noctua melicerte, Drury, Ill. Ex. Ent. i. p. 46, pl. 23. fig. 1. (1770).

One worn example was obtained of this widely distributed moth.

3. Notes on the *Penæidæ* in the Collection of the British Museum, with Descriptions of some new Species. By EDWARD J. MIERS, F.L.S., F.Z.S., Zoological Department, British Museum.

[Received February 12, 1878.]

(Plate XVII.)

Mr. G. E. Dobson, M.B., F.L.S., lately presented to the Trustees of the British Museum a remarkable specimen of *Penæus*, with the request that I should lay a description of it before the Society. In studying the affinities of this form, which is described below under the name of *P. dobsoni*, I found it necessary to revise the characters of the whole of the species of this large and difficult genus; and although the materials existing in the national collection are not rich enough at present to permit of a complete review of the subject, it is hoped that the following notes on the species in the collection will contribute toward the elucidation of the genus, while the synoptical key to the genus appended will serve to indicate what appear to be the principal distinctive characters of the different species, and to mark what are *desiderata* in the collection of the British Museum. I have added some remarks upon the *Funchalia woodwardi*, and on the *Penæus edwardsianus* of Mr. J. Y. Johnson, showing that this latter species must be referred to the genus *Aristeus* of Duvernoy; also a description of a species of *Sicyonia* not hitherto recorded.

PENÆUS CANALICULATUS.

Palæmon canaliculatus, Olivier, Encycl. Méth. Hist. Nat. viii. p. 660 (1811).

Penæus canaliculatus, M.-Edw. Hist. Nat. Crust. ii. p. 414 (1837); De Haan, Faun. Japon. Crust. p. 190 (1849).